

Message Text

SECRET

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70

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7637

S E C R E T ANKARA 583

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MILI, MASS, TU, CY

SUBJ: WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. PROVIDED MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM CYPRUS

1. IN JANUARY 20 CONVERSATION WITH MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MUTUAL SECURITY AFFAIRS YAVUZALP, DCM ASKED WHETHER YAVUZALP COULD IN INFORMAL MANNER CONFIRM REPORT THAT, DURING CURRENT ROTATION OF TROOPS ON CYPRUS, UNITS WITH U.S. PROVIDED EQUIPMENT ARE BEING REPLACED BY UNITS OUTFITTED WITH EQUIPMENT NOT PROVIDED BY U.S. DCM EXPLAINED THAT INFORMATION OF THIS NATURE, EVEN IF NOT COMMUNICATED OFFICIALLY, COULD BE OF HELP DURING UPCOMING CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. DCM ALSO ASKED WHETHER YAVUZALP COULD COMMENT ON ALLEGATIONS WHICH HAD COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT U.S. SUPPLIED AMMUNITION HAD RECENTLY BEEN SHIPPED TO CYPRUS (DAO MESSAGE 2013422JAN75).

2. PROMISING TO QUERY TURKISH GENERAL STAFF ON BOTH REPORTS, YAVUZALP EMPHASIZED THAT IN ANY EVENT AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION ON THESE MATTERS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. YAVUZALP EXPLAINED THAT GOT STRONGLY HOLDS THAT IT HAS NOT VIOLATED PROVISIONS OF U.S. LEGISLATION, WHICH IN ANY EVENT ARE NOT BINDING ON GOT SINCE THEY ARE NOT EMBODIED IN BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

3. AFTER CHECKING WITH TURKISH GENERAL STAFF, YAVUZALP LATER TOLD MSA COUNSELOR THAT HE COULD CONFIRM THAT TURKISH UNITS WITH U.S. EQUIPMENT ARE BEING REPLACED ON CYPRUS BY UNITS WITH EQUIPMENT NOT PROVIDED BY U.S. AND THAT NO REPEAT NO ADDITIONAL U.S. PROVIDED MUNITIONS HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO CYPRUS. YAVUZALP SAID THIS

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INFORMATION COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO RELIABLE BUT NOT OFFICIAL SOURCES.

ATTRIBUTION TO OFFICIAL SOURCES, YAVUZALP EMPHASIZED, WOULD FORCE
GOT TO ISSUE DENIAL.

4. COMMENT: FIRST INDICATION THAT GOT WAS REPLACING U.S.
PROVIDED EQUIPMENT ON CYPRUS WAS GIVEN TO CHJUSMMAT BY HIGH
LEVEL MILITARY SOURCE. WE SHALL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO GATHER
AVAILABLE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF EQUIPMENT MOVMENTS TO AND FROM
CYPRUS. IN MEANTIME, INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY YAVUZALP, DESPITE
RESTRICTIONS ON ATTRIBUTION, MIGHT BE OF SOME ASSISTANCE WITH
CONGRESS.
MACOMBER

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